



CIVIL SERVICE

Both Houses of the General Assembly Have Now Agree Upon a State Civil Service Measure.

On Tuesday the Illinois senate agreed to the conference report on the Buck-Bancroft state civil service bill by a vote of 26 to 6. This completes the senate end of legislation on the bill. With action by the house on the report the measure will go to Gov. Lowden for his signature. This is the bill that wipes out the trial clause in the state civil service law.

Clarence F. Buck explained that the conferees made three changes in the bill, passed by the house. These relate to exemptions. Employees of house and senate are exemptions added, also a stenographer for each of the elective officers and the exempted employees in the University of Illinois a scientific character are to come under civil service.

The house passed the national guard emergency appropriation bill of \$750,000 to care for the volunteer army and home guard. It is endorsed by the state council of defense. The bill goes to the senate for concurrent action.

The Chicago traction battle on the "home rule" merger, subway and franchise bills went over until the late afternoon session.

Gov. Lowden now has the \$60,000,000 hard road bill before him. The house concurred in a conference committee report by the decisive vote of 105 to 0. It provides systematic building of 4,400 miles of hard roads connecting the 102 counties. The bond issue is to be financed by motorists by the doubling of license fees.

After a patriotic speech by Harold C. Keesinger the senate refused to strike out the enacting clause of Senator Latham's bill to give old soldiers

a state pension of \$10 a month. James J. Barbour of Chicago made the motion and on the roll call he got only one supporter, George F. Harding of Chicago.

"It would be a disgrace on registration day to have it go out that the enacting clause was stricken from a bill of this nature," said Mr. Keesinger. "Any member of this house should be ashamed to offer such a motion."

R. M. PATTERSON MAKES CHARGES

Rudolph M. Patterson, whose office of commissioner of the State Board of Live Stock recently was declared vacant by Governor Lowden, filed a complaint against Charles A. Lowery before the state civil service commission. Mr. Lowery was named as Mr. Patterson's successor by the Governor.

"I am not seeking reinstatement," said Mr. Patterson, "because I am still one of the live stock commissioners. Appointed for three years and confirmed by the Senate, my term doesn't expire until September 25 next. If the Governor wants to oust me he will have to prefer and prove charges against me."

"I filed the charges against Mr. Lowery to compel the state civil service commission to strike his name from its rolls. If the commissioners refuse to do this I will go into court and force them to do so."

The charges against Mr. Lowery include making false accusations, incompetency, inefficiency, insubordination, insulting conduct, and "a total

lack of fitness and qualifications to discharge the duties of a secretary of a public state board."

TAXING INSURANCE PREMIUMS

The county board has taken up the campaign now centered in legislative circles at Springfield for the enactment of a law or the passing of an amendment to a present law widening the scope of taxation of insurance premiums. It is expected that the result will be an addition of about \$2,000,000 annually to the revenue of the various taxing bodies of Cook county.

The proposition is to levy the regular tax rate on the premiums of life

the move also in various sections of the state.

Other states have similar laws. Ohio, it is said, has a law taxing all insurance premiums as personal property and yet the insurance rates thus affected are no higher than the corresponding rates in Illinois.

MR. BUSBY OFFERS WAGE RAISE

L. A. Busby, president of the Chicago Surface Lines, made an offer to the strike committee of the employees of an increase of 2 cents an hour for all employees in the mechanical and operating divisions.

The proposal states that because of the war and the unsettled conditions of the country all efforts should be made to avoid a strike.

Mr. Busby refused to consider the demands of the men for an eight-hour day and for several minor working conditions. With the exception of the wages the contract offered by the company is the same as the one accepted by both sides in 1915.

The present scale and the one offered by Mr. Busby are as follows:

	Old scale.	New scale.
First 3 months.....	27 cents	29 cents
Second 3 months.....	29 cents	31 cents
Second 6 months.....	30 cents	32 cents
Second year.....	32 cents	34 cents
Third year.....	33 cents	35 cents
Fourth year.....	34 cents	36 cents
Fifth year.....	36 cents	38 cents
Sprinkler service.....	32 cents	34 cents
Trolley boys.....	23 cents	25 cents
Snow plows and sweepers.....	36 cents	38 cents
Night cars (8 hrs.).....	\$3.00	\$3.20

EXEMPTION PLAN

Governor Lowden Asks Members of the General Assembly to Recommend Members of Boards on Exempts.

Gov. Lowden went before the members of the fiftieth general assembly in joint session on Tuesday on war registration affairs. It was the legislative observance of registration day. The state executive in a heart to heart talk with the members discussed the exemption boards to be named to pass upon the eligibility of the men who registered today for war service.

Speaker Shanahan presided over the joint session and Lieut. Gov. Oglesby, as presiding officer of the state, occupied a seat to the right of the speaker. The galleries were well filled and the state executive was given a round of applause as a committee from the house and senate escorted him to the rostrum.

Gov. Lowden explained that he wished the members of the legislature to recommend the names of men in each county to serve on the exemption

25. With an allowance of two weeks in home armories this would make Aug. 8 as the date for the departure of the Illinois contingent for the training camp.

HONOR CLIVE RUNNELLS

A dispatch from Washington to the Chicago Tribune dated June 4 says:

Clive Runnells of Chicago, vice president of the Pullman company, was named today by the council of national defense as a member of a co-operative committee on railway cars to serve with the committee on transportation and communication headed by Daniel Willard.

S. M. Vauclain, vice president of the Baldwin Locomotive Works, is chairman of the cars committee and also of a co-operative committee on locomotives.

It will be the function of these two

committees to assist in solving the problem of increasing American output of cars and locomotives through co-ordination of the efforts of manufacturers to aid in making as efficient use as possible of existing rolling stock.

FOR GOOD ROADS

Members of the good roads committee of the Illinois Manufacturers' Association have given unanimous endorsement to the Danville platform of the Illinois Highway Improvement Association and the suggested amendment providing for the payment of the entire interest and principal of the proposed \$60,000,000 bond issue from the collection of increased motor vehicle state license fees. The committee also approves an appropriation by the legislature to secure Illinois' share of the amount allotted under the federal aid road act.

IN THE CITY COUNCIL

Important Public Business Before the Chicago Board of Aldermen

At the regular City Council meeting on Monday the mayor replied to the charge of Jacob M. Loeb that the city administration had designs on the public schools system.

The upshot of the matter was direction by the council that the committee on schools make a complete investigation of all angles of the controversy, including the qualifications of the appointees named by the mayor. These include the two named yesterday to take the places of Trustees Krueger and Piggott, who refused to accept appointment from the mayor. They are:

EDWIN S. DAVIS, 6740 Bennett avenue, president and manager of the Ideal Crushed Stone Company, with quarries near Joliet. He is slated to succeed Mr. Piggott.

ALBERT H. SEVERINGHAUS, 2022 North Humboldt boulevard, proprietor of the G. A. R. laundry, to take the place of Mr. Krueger.

Ald. A. A. McCormick attempted to get a vote on a motion requesting the mayor to submit an entire list of new names, but his request fell by the wayside and was relegated to the schools committee.

The chief charge contained in the mayor's message was that school children here are charged 16 per cent more for a certain text book than are pupils in the public schools of the state of Oklahoma. Three letters—from City Controller Pike, Corporation Counsel Ettelson, and Health Commissioner Robertson—accompanied the communication and supplied several additional "side lights" concerning the mayor's relations with Mr. Loeb.

Mr. Pike denied Mr. Loeb's statement concerning the reason for the delay of board appointees May 14. He

declared Mr. Loeb asked for the postponement, saying he would "guarantee to deliver the Chicago Tribune and the Daily News for them."

"Mr. Loeb thanked you effusively," concluded the letter, "for the interest shown in his behalf and stated that you would never have cause to regret anything you had done for him."

Mr. Ettelson, in his epistle, gave a history of senate bill No. 56, which Mr. Loeb opposed, and the corporation counsel added that Angus Roy Shannon, attorney for the board, had lobbied for it. When Mr. Loeb was informed of the tactics of the lawyer he said, according to Mr. Ettelson: "Shannon betrayed me."

Dr. Robertson, writing to the mayor, said: "I desire to call your attention to the fact that I was present when Jacob M. Loeb made the statement to you that Lewis E. Larson, secretary, and Angus Roy Shannon, attorney for the board of education, were not honorable men, and were not working for the best interests of the school children and should be removed from their positions and supplanted by honest men."

"I move the communication be published and referred to the committee on schools for investigation," said Ald. Michaelson, administration floor leader.

"When was this information about text books obtained?" asked Ald. Kunz.

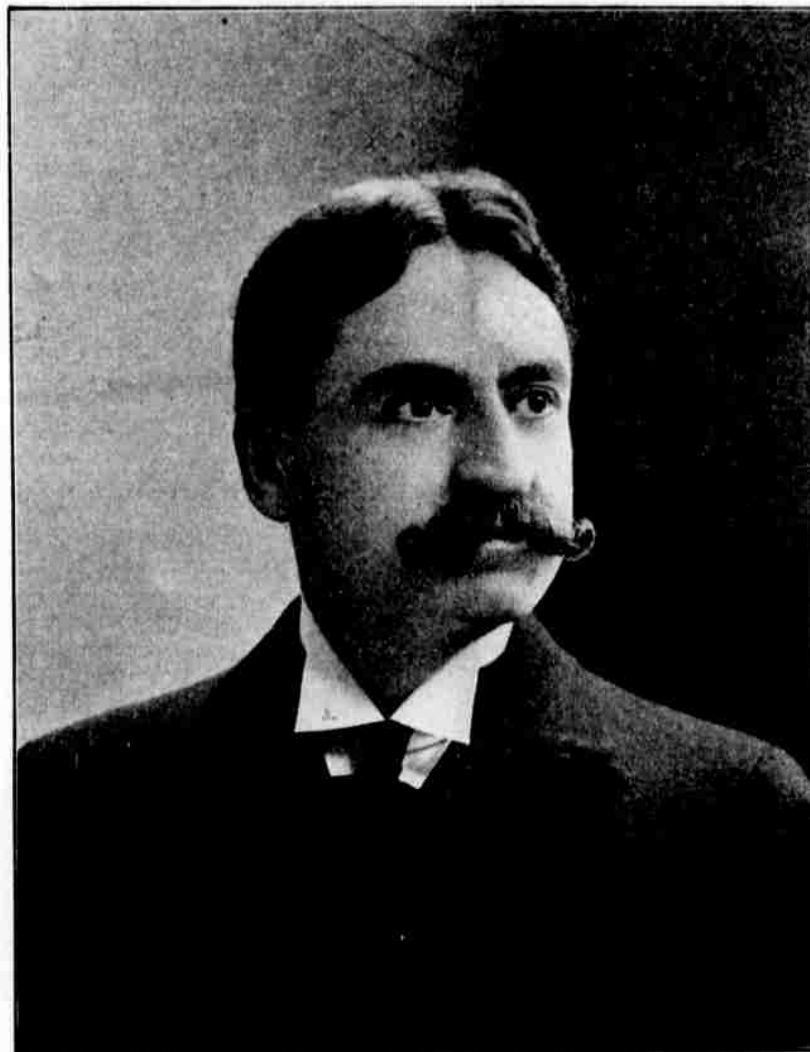
"Day before yesterday," was the mayor's reply.

Ald. A. A. McCormick said he wished to know whether reference of the message and letters to the committee included postponement of action on the mayor's present seven appointees. At the suggestion of the mayor Ald. Michaelson asked the action be delayed.

"Will you include an investigation of the seven appointees by the committee on schools in your motion?" Ald. Kennedy asked Michaelson.

"I certainly will not," said the other.

"Then," said Kennedy, "I amend the motion to read that the committee be directed to investigate all nine appointees."



COLONEL B. A. ECKHART, Leader in Financial, Business and Political Circles.

and casualty insurance policies as personal property. This comprises a wide field of insurance, the casualty business including such forms of risk as accident, burglary, plate glass, and automobile insurance. At present the only forms of insurance assessed are fire and marine.

The county board adopted resolutions submitted by Commissioner Bartley Burg authorizing President Reinberg to appoint a committee of three to represent the interests of the county at Springfield.

President Reinberg appointed Commissioners Burg, George A. Miller and William H. MacLean. This committee will confer with legislators who have the matter in hand. Copies of the resolution of the board on the subject have also been sent to all the members of the legislature and to the governor.

E. J. Smejkal, member of the house from the Seventeenth district and chairman of the committee on appropriations, is leader in the move for extension of the insurance tax. There is considerable activity in favor of

boards in the 102 political subdivisions in the state. In Cook county the territory will be divided into units containing a population of 30,000.

Two members of the boards in each county and two from each of the subdivisions in Cook are to be suggested to the government by the legislators. The third member of each board will be a physician to be named by the governor upon suggestion of the state medical society.

The various boards will have it in their power to determine whether a registered man between the ages of 21 and 30 years is entitled to exemption from draft under the army service act.

Cook county legislators are anxious to learn the subdivisions in Cook county, since they will be unable to make their recommendations until they get the boundary lines of the subdivisions. It is probable there will be more than thirty such subdivisions.

The City should be redistricted at once, according to law. The wards should be equalized according to population. The First ward only has 60,682 inhabitants, while the Twenty-ninth has 94,360. Six of the wards contain 75,000 people. The Fifteenth has 80,532; the Twenty-fifth has 86,104; the Twenty-ninth, 89,691; the Thirty-third, 83,229.

IN THE LEGISLATURE

Work of Illinois Lawmaking Body During the Current Week

The Assembly Bulletin published by the Legislative Voters' League says that Assembly leaders believe they can finish the work of the Legislature in two weeks.

Scores of bills, which have reached the calendar stage, will be sacrificed in order to get through by the middle of June, but it is not expected that the lawmakers can be kept in session after the state appropriation measures are acted upon. It is planned to give final consideration to all the money bills by that time.

All the important legislation with a few exceptions is on the calendars and the few bills that remain in committee will be tabled or reported out early next week.

Members are taking stock of the work accomplished and that remaining undone with a view to giving consideration to the more important matters during the few remaining days of the regular legislative session.

The Corporation and Insurance excise bill was killed by the lower house. The bill provided for a tax of 2 per cent on the gross premium receipts of insurance companies and 1/25 of 1 per cent on the capital stock of corporations. It was estimated that under its provisions the state would make a net gain in revenue of 1 1/2 million dollars. Nearly \$1,000,000 of this would have been paid by the insurance companies.

Opponents of the measure argue that it is a bad principle to tax insurance, while both the corporation and insurance interests insist they should not be subjected to a greater taxation burden at this time, in view of the heavy levies which the federal government is planning to make upon them.

A last effort is to be made by organized labor to pass the anti-injunction bill in the Senate. Friends of labor believe the bill can be amended somewhat so as to appeal to the farmer members of the Legislature. If they can get the bill past the Senate, they believe the House, which killed the same measure a couple of weeks ago, can be persuaded to deliver a constitutional majority in favor of the bill. While there is some talk of further efforts to pass the bill providing for jury trial for injunction violators, it is not believed that serious efforts in this direction will be made.

Representative Sydney Lyon has introduced a bill in the House making it unlawful for anyone to place the name of any person on a primary ballot without that person's consent. Mr. Lyon suffered in the last primary because of the filing of several names similar to his own.

Representative McCarthy's bill making uniform the fees of Cook County

magistrates and justices of the peace outside of Chicago was passed by the House, as was the bill of Representative Volz, which increases the jurisdiction of justices of the peace from \$200 to \$300 in civil cases.

The House Judiciary Committee refused to recommend for passage Representative Sidney Lyon's bill which would give graduates of professional schools who go to war certificates to practice in the state without examination.

Representative Thomas Curran's measure, providing severe penalties for professional bondsmen who misrepresent property values or swear falsely concerning ownership of property, was recommended for passage by the House Judiciary committee. The measure was drafted by Judge George F. Barrett of Chicago and has the backing of prominent members of the Illinois bench and bar.

The lower house passed bills appropriating \$25,000 for the state centennial celebration in 1917 and \$250,000 for construction of the state centennial building.

School books are to be sold as cheaply in Illinois as in any other state under the provisions of the bill of Senator Dailey which was passed by the House Thursday. School boards are required to adopt only such textbooks as may be approved by the state superintendent of public instruction. The House killed the bill recommended by the committee on education providing for the creation of a state uniform text-book commission.

The Senate passed the bill permitting corporations to own real estate to be developed as residential districts. Such land-owning corporations shall be composed of persons residing in the county in which the corporation's office is maintained and no unimproved tract of land may be held by such a corporation for a period longer than five years.

The Senate by a vote of 33 to 9 passed the bill aimed at loan "sharks." It provides that a maximum interest charge of 3 1/2 per cent a month may be made on chattel mortgage and wage assignment loans not exceeding \$300.